

2013 Needs Assessment for Monroe County

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Accomplishments

21st Century Leadership Club

The Club recognizes the need for young people throughout Monroe County who are at risk in developing academic skills, maintaining emotional maturity, wholesome physical and mental health, and responsible citizenship.

The young people are invited to join the B. Turner 21st Century Leadership Club. The joining is invitation only.

If the students decide he/she wants to be apart/member of the club, it is with the understanding of all rules

and procedures must be adhered to with emphasis placed upon obedience and responsibility toward the staff and fellow students.

As members of the club, the students engage in group or individual settings that facilitate understanding of self

purpose, self direction, and self control. They learn to recognize logical consequences by making complex

choices through role playing and in managing peer group pressures. Tutoring in all subjects is provided as

needed by volunteers and college students.

Throughout the year, students are taking on College and University tours. The University tour allows the

students to develop an appreciation and understanding of the essentials of pre-college preparation.

During the

summer, the ninth through eleventh graders are enrolled at Alabama State University, Auburn

University, and the University of South Alabama in a one week summer program to develop an awareness of living and studying on campus.

The 21st Century Club students must provide services to the community. Their annual task is to work the

Relay for Life event and raise 1,000.00 for the Pilots for Christ organization. The Pilots for Christ is an organization that transports critical patients (which is free service) by airplane (airplane is owned by Lee Motor

Company) to a highly qualified medical facility out of state. The fuel of the plane is provided through donations.

Finally, all students in the club complete a career plan. We work with them in developing job seeking skills,

preparing resumes, writing essays for scholarships, preparing applications for college. Once our students enter

college their progress is tracked until graduation. We provide them with the understanding that education is a

process that is continuous throughout life.

The clubs ultimate accomplishment is that we have students attending the University of South Alabama,

Mobile College, Bishop State College, The University of Alabama, Alabama A&M University, Tuskegee University, Troy State University, Alabama State University, and Auburn University in Montgomery. Our Accomplishments are continuous.

Community Partners

The Life Skills class (in partnership with the Monroe County Branch of the Community Action Agency of Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, and Monroe Counties) that is taught at the Turner Center has joined

in partnership with the Child Policy Council of Monroe County.

At-Risk students (mostly truancy) are directed to attend the Life Skills classes at the Turner Center for six- weeks. If the student is on time, meet the requirements (class participation) and present for each class

session, he/she will receive a incentive of \$100.00 at the end of the course. The incentive is provided by the

Community Action Agency of the aforementioned counties.

The class provides a basic for students to actively participate in career exploration and ethical behavior

by engaging in small groups (four to six students) to empower each other.

Realistic goals are emphasized for making transition from home to living independently; choices to stay

in school and prepare for the life challenges. For example: student will learn how to fill out job applications,

finding a job, finding an apartment, how to manage a budget (rent, food, planning meals, utilities, clothing,

etc..) to sustain his/her livelihood.

The students will participate in mathematical, interpersonal, spatial, and kinesthetic skilled activities.

For example, the student will cut pictures from magazines to select the home, career, furniture, job, car, family,

etc., and build upon it while gaining a visual picture of how important getting an education (graduating from

high school) will enhance and make the transition from living at home to living on his/her own.

Central Alabama Adolescent Treatment Source

Alternative programs for at-risk youth.

Central Alabama Adolescent Treatment Source designs its educational programs for the purpose of reducing

the youth recidivism rate and preventing further penetration into the juvenile justice system. There are

4

programs that are offered:

1. Youth Opportunities- a behavior modification program
2. I am Worthy- a self esteem program designed for teen moms.
3. STOP- a program designed to reduce juvenile shoplifting and theft of property.
4. Who AM I- an anger management program for youth.

Although most participants come from the juvenile justice system, Central Alabama Adolescent Treatment

Source does accept other referrals.

Camp Horizon

Baldwin County Boys' Residential Wilderness Program

Camp Horizon Benefits:

- Enhances social skills
- Enriches family relationships
- Increases personal accountability
- Reduces risky behavior
- Improves academic participation
- Decreases delinquent behavior

Student Profile

Court referred males, ages 13-18 years old, struggling in their home, school or peer environments.

A typical student may be experiencing one or more of the following:

- Poor academic performance
- Truancy
- Family conflict
- Delinquency
- Low self esteem or motivation
- Poor decision making
- Difficulty with family and/or peer relationships
- Risky behavior, such as experimenting with drugs or alcohol, gang related behavior, lying or stealing.

The Camp Horizon Program

The program builds on treatment with four stage level system. Each level system is designed to be a metaphor

of life in the real world to help slowly transition males back to their home setting.

Each male is required to complete 16 Successful weeks of the program to be eligible for graduation.

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

Violence in the Neighborhoods

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Lonnie Richardson Counseling Services -Summer Program "Our Summer Program" program developed for impoverished children living in the Monroe County Areas. Increased Police Street Patrol Bethel #2 Baptist Church -Back to School Seminar -Weekly Bible Study -Youth Vacation Bible School Southwest Alabama Community Mental Health -Tip line for Underage Drinking	Develop a Adopt-A-Block plan for building a greater neighborhood. Increase number youth leaders and youth participation in community. Promote and inform residents about neighborhood watch programs. Develop a Crisis Management Resource Booklet.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Seek Monroe County awareness among the community related to crime (gun violence, gang violence, domestic violence, drug abuse, etc.,)
2. Provide additional training to local law enforcement, ministers, and parents to monitor crime.
3. Start a newspaper and radio campaign to address the perception high rate violence in the local community.
4. Develop more neighborhood awareness, education and cooperation.

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Parent Involvement Skills

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Department of Human Resources provide programs toward parenting skills. Parenting classes once a week at local churches. Life skills classes provided at the Turner Center. Southwest Alabama Mental Health provide counseling at each schools. HIPPPY Program for children and parents.	Establish family oriented activity centers. Increase PTO involvement at each schools in the county. Secure funding to provide parenting classes to children of incarcerated parents. Family Fun Day at each schools. Parent Involvement with Title I Program. Orientation before school starts for parents.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Use local newspaper to promote information on various parenting sessions and events.
2. Provide a community information session at all local churches with school officials involvement.
3. Introduce local ministers to PTO and provide skills training activities for their congregations.

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Economic Security

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Alabama Career Center enhance education and training. Job fair promoted by our local community college and Chamber of Commerce. Monroe County High School-Career Resource Center provide rising technical career training and workforce development. Delta-GEMS Program which develop strong, confident and respectful young ladies and prepare them to take an active role in their success and society.	Seek funding for more job training programs. Promote on the job readiness training.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Strategies planning to bring more business into the county.
2. Seek small business loans for those interested in entrepreneurship.
3. Encourage entrepreneurship within the county.